

resubmission when the deficiencies are cured; or

(iii) EDA denies the proposal for specifically stated reasons.

(b) *National technical assistance, training, research, or evaluation projects.* If you are or represent a party eligible to be an applicant, and are interested in a national technical assistance, training, research, or evaluation project under PWEDA, you should make initial contact with EDA in Washington, D.C., at locations identified in the NOFA, for information and assistance concerning proposals and to obtain program information, including a copy of the current NOFA, and OMB approved proposal form. After submission of the proposal to the appropriate EDA Washington, D.C. office, generally, three or more technically knowledgeable EDA officials will review the proposal for relevance and quality.

(1) If EDA determines that the proposal is acceptable under §304.2, program specific sections of this chapter, and the NOFA, if applicable, EDA may by letter invite the submitter to provide an application with a more detailed and comprehensive project narrative.

(2) If EDA determines that the proposal is not acceptable because of specified deficiencies, EDA will so notify the submitter in writing in a timely manner.

(c) Additional criteria, or priority consideration factors for assistance, may be set forth in a NOFA.

(d) EDA expects that applications will generally be submitted within 30 days after receipt of an invitation letter. EDA's invitation to submit an application does not assure EDA funding.

[64 FR 5357, Feb. 3, 1999, as amended at 64 FR 69874, Dec. 14, 1999]

#### **§304.2 How EDA evaluates proposals and applications for projects funded under PWEDA.**

(a) General proposal and application evaluation criteria for projects funded under PWEDA are as follows: EDA will screen all proposals/applications for conformance to statutory and regulatory requirements, the reasonableness of the budget presented, and the following criteria:

(1) The relative severity of the economic problem of the area,

(2) The quality of the scope of work proposed to address the problem,

(3) The merits of the activity(ies) for which funding is requested, and

(4) The ability of the prospective applicant to carry out the proposed activity(ies) successfully.

(b) EDA will also review applications for conformance with any additional program specific evaluation criteria as stated in applicable sections of these rules or the NOFA.

(c) The NOFA may identify special areas of interest or priority consideration for the period of such NOFA.

[64 FR 5357, Feb. 3, 1999, as amended at 64 FR 69875, Dec. 14, 1999]

## **PART 305—GRANTS FOR PUBLIC WORKS AND DEVELOPMENT FACILITIES**

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AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 3211; Department of Commerce Organization Order 10-4.